



# Music Faculty Curriculum Philosophy

*'Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything.'*  
Plato

Music is an integral part of our everyday lives and, as such, our aim in music is simple - to engage and inspire students to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians.

Each term students will work within the three main areas of the music curriculum - performing (singing or playing), composing (creating their own music) and listening and appraising. This curriculum will be delivered predominantly through practical activities which allow students to experience and learn the threshold concepts in music: rhythm and beat, pitch, harmony and the concept that sound can be manipulated through the elements of music.

Through performing, students will learn instrumental skills and gain confidence by improving technical control of an instrument including their own voice. The mastery of instrumental skills will enable students to put theory into practise and *understand* music by *making* music. Students will not only be encouraged to show aspiration to develop and perfect their performance skills but also to understand that resilience is required to put in the necessary time and practise to develop these skills.

In composition students will be encouraged to explore their curiosity as they learn how layers of sound work together and how sounds and instruments can be manipulated in different ways to create different effects. This allows students to be creative and develop a critical engagement with music encouraging both independent learning skills and self-expression.

Through practising their listening and appraising skills, students will listen to and experience a wide range of musical genres and styles, from classical to jazz, enhancing students' cultural capital and furthering their musical knowledge. Students will discuss the work of a cross section of composers from different points in history and will develop oracy skills to enable them to use sophisticated musical vocabulary to accurately describe what they hear.

Students will also learn how to read and understand written musical notation, enabling them to develop the necessary schema to develop their skills to unlock their musical potential to its fullest. Whether it be to pursue music as a GCSE, a hobby, a career or purely to foster a lifelong love and appreciation of music, students at Biddick Academy will gain the musical knowledge and skills they need to be ready to achieve this.